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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/575,732

04/13/2006

Roland Anthony Tacke

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25225 7590 04/15/2009  
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP  
12531 HIGH BLUFF DRIVE  
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SAN DIEGO, CA 92130-2040

EXAMINER

CLARK, GREGORY D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1794

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/15/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/575,732	<b>Applicant(s)</b> TACKEN, ROLAND ANTHONY	
	<b>Examiner</b> GREGORY CLARK	<b>Art Unit</b> 1794	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/26/2006</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

- 1. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Boone (2001/0045361).**
- 2. Regarding Claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12,** Boone teaches a method for selectively metallizing a component which comprises a first part constituted by first material (plastic) and a second part constituted by a second material (plastic) (abstract). The method involves the steps of :
  - applying a metallizing seeding layer on the part of the surface of the first part and the second part (abstract) ;
  - exposing a relevant surface of the component, including the metallizing seed layer to a solvent in which the material of the first part is insoluble and the material of the second part is soluble (abstract).

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The metallizing seeding is selectively removed with the aid of a solvent in the regions (in the soluble part) which are not to be metallized (abstract).

The examiner interprets this to mean that the first part will be the metallizing layer (the insoluble part). The second part (the soluble part) will be removed by the solvent and will not form a metallized seeding layer (analogous, per claims 1, 5 and 6).

The selective metallization of the insoluble first part takes place by electroless metal deposition (metallizing environment, per claims 4 and 10) or electrodeposition of the metal (abstract).

The electroless metal deposition or electrodeposition of metal results in a metal layer (abstract) which covers the metal seeding layer of the first part (analogous, per claim 9) which reads directly on claims 11 and 12 with the formation of the respective components.

**3. Regarding Claims 2 and 7,** Boone teaches that the first material and the second material can be a plastic (abstract).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**4. Claims 3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boone (2001/0045361) and Li (20020051848).**

**5. Regarding Claims 3 and 8,** Boone teaches a method for the selective metallization of a plastic component with an electroless deposition process (abstract). Boone fails to teach the selective metallization of a ceramic surface.

Li discloses that ceramic surfaces can be metallized by the electroless process (paragraph 155).

The examiner takes the position that the electroless deposition process taught by Boone is not limited to a plastic substrate but could be applied to other substrates including ceramic substrates as disclosed by Li. At the time of the invention, a person of ordinary skill in the art would apply the selective metallization method of Boone to ceramics surfaces since ceramic surfaces were known in the art to be suitable metallization by the electroless process. The selective nature of the electroless deposition process of Boone would therefore be applicable to ceramic substrates.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. (see Baum, 6,017, 613, Column 2, line 42).

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GREGORY CLARK whose telephone number is (571)270-7087. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7:00 AM to 5 PM Alternating Fri 7:30 AM to 4 PM and Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Larry Tarazano can be reached on (571)272-1515. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. Lawrence Tarazano/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1794

GDC